

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
December 16, 2019**

**I. ROLL CALL**

A regular meeting of the Jamestown Town Council was held on December 16, 2019. Town Council Members present were as follows: Michael G. White, Mary Meagher, Nancy A. Beye, Randall White, and William J. Piva, Jr. Also present Interim Town Administrator Christina D. Collins, Town Solicitor Peter D. Ruggiero, Chief of Police Edward A. Mello, Public Works Director Michael C. Gray, Recreation Director Andrew Wade and Water and Sewer Clerk, Denise Jennings.

**II. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Town Council President White called the meeting of the Jamestown Town Council to order at 6:38 P.M. in the Jamestown Town Hall, Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers at 93 Narragansett Avenue, and announced the Cell Tower discussion is not listed on the agenda as reported in the Jamestown Press. He then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**A motion was made by Councilor White with second by Councilor Piva to convene as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye.**

**III. TOWN COUNCIL SITTING AS THE BOARD OF WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

The Town Council convened as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners at 6:39 P.M. and adjourned from sitting as the Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners at 6:48 P.M. See Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners Meeting Minutes.

**IV. OPEN FORUM**

- A) Scheduled request to address- None
- B) Non-scheduled request to address-

No comments.

**V. COUNCIL, ADMINISTRATOR, SOLICITOR, COMMISSION/COMMITTEE COMMENTS & REPORTS**

- A) Town Administrator's Report: Christina D. Collins, Interim Town Administrator
  - 1) Electrify Rhode Island- Vehicle Charging Station Incentive Program
  - 2) Golf Course Clubhouse Update
  - 3) Senior Center Update 6 West Street
  - 4) Town of Jamestown FY 2020/2021 Budget

Interim Town Administrator Collins advised on Betsey Anderson, Senior Services Director Office has moved into the Senior Center located at 6 West Street.

## **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*Please Note in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b) the Council May Review, Discuss and/or take Action and/or Vote on the following items:*

- A) Upcoming Meetings and Sessions – dates and times
  - 1) Town Council Meeting Schedule: January 6<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming dates were reviewed.

Interim Town Administrator Collins advised the first meeting held in January will be Fort Getty topics.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

*Please Note in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b) the Council May Review, Discuss and/or take Action and/or Vote on the following items:*

- A) Discussion and Possible Action to Nominate and Appoint the New Town Administrator

Council President White reviewed the search process for Town Administrator and was pleased to report the town received 60 applicants. He spoke on the qualification of those interviewed. He further explained at this time they would need a motion to nominate the appointment for the Town Administrator with the terms and conditions to be reviewed and negotiated by the Town Solicitor, on our behalf, and return to the Town Council for final review and approval.

Vice President Meagher would like to appoint Jamie Hainsworth and further spoke on the career and accolades of Mr. Hainsworth. She also spoke on his character, demeanor, passion and enthusiasm.

Councilor White shared he knew Jamie for many years and concurred with his appointment. He also spoke on his integrity, character and enthusiasm for the town.

Councilor Beye advised she did not know Jamie but had her right at the beginning. She thought about who we needed and what we needed. He is genuine and concerned with town and she is very excited.

Councilor Piva agreed with all the other Councilors and was excited to have Jamie on board and looking for the candidate and how they would fit here. Jamie was already a fit.

Council President White stated all the interviewed applicants were well qualified. He further commented on the ease to work with Jamie. Especially with him living in Jamestown.

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Beye to appoint Jamie Hainsworth as Town Administrator with terms and conditions to be negotiated by Town Solicitor for Town Council review and final approval. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye.**

Vice President Meagher thanked Solicitor Ruggiero, Interim Administrator Collins and Town Clerk Liese for the help and assistance during this process. She also commented on the terrific staff that work for the Town of Jamestown.

- B) Discussion on Short Term Rentals as Requested by Councilor White
  - 1) Communication of Marian Falla Regarding Airbnb, Short term Rentals with regards to Jamestown Zoning

Council White asked that this matter be referred to town staff for review the issues that may be associated with Airbnb and concerns.

Interim Town Administrator Collins advised on past discussions with Host Compliance and recommended staff look at ordinances and regulations to review for recommendation to Council.

Councilor Piva questioned Host Compliance.

Vice President Meagher advised on Host Compliance and how they track data.

Discussion ensued on Host Compliance and Airbnb.

Ms. Falla of Green Lane shared her concerns regarding Airbnb.

Interim Town Administrator Collins advised she would provide the Council with the Host Compliance Report from August, 2019.

- C) Jamestown Rotary Club Requesting Payment by the Town of Jamestown for the Annual Jamestown Classic Bike Race for Police Detail Provided by the City of Newport in the Amount of \$660.00

Mark Holland of Intrepid Lane addressed the Council and requested payment by the Town of Jamestown for the Annual Jamestown Classic Bike Race for police detail provided by the City of Newport in the Amount of \$660.00. He further explained the fundraising efforts of the Rotary that support several community endeavors.

Discussion ensued on the race and community efforts supported by this fundraiser.

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Beye to approve the payment by the Town of Jamestown for the Annual Jamestown Classic Bike Race for police detail provided by the City of Newport in the amount of \$660.00. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye.**

**VIII. ORDINANCES, APPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES AND EXPIRING TERMS**

*Please Note in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b) the Council May Review, Discuss and/or take Action and/or Vote on the following items:*

- A) Appointments, Vacancies, and Expiring Terms:
  - \*has applied for more than one committee
- 1) Discover Newport Board of Directors (one vacancy with an unexpired term expiring September 5, 2020)
  - a) Letters of interest for appointment
    - i) James Rugh
    - ii) Thomas McNiff
    - iii) Jessica McCarthy\*

Vice President Meagher commented on the accomplishments of the applicants and the hospitality requirement to serve on the board.

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Piva to appoint Thomas McNiff to the Discover Newport Board with a term expiring September 5, 2020. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye.**

- 2) Jamestown Fire Department Compensation Committee (One Citizen-at-Large vacancy with an unexpired term ending date May 31, 2021 and One Citizen-at-Large with a term ending May 31, 2022)
  - a) Letter of interest for appointment
    - i) Eric T. Lexow

It was noted the Council would still need to interview Mr. Lexow.

- 3) Jamestown Harbor Commission Member (one vacancy with a three-year term expiring December 31, 2022)
  - a) Letter on interest for appointment
    - i) Richard Raynes
    - ii) Leo N. Orsi, Jr.
    - iii) Jessica McCarthy\*

Vice President Meagher spoke on the qualifications of Mr. Raynes and Mr. Orsi.

Councilor Piva also stated he would be comfortable with either Mr. Raynes or Mr. Orsi due to their experience and qualifications.

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor Piva to appoint Richard Raynes to the Harbor Commission with a term expiring December 31, 2022. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye.**

- 4) Tree Preservation and Protection Committee (two vacancies with a three-year term expiring December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022
  - a) Letter of resignation
    - i) Elaine Peterson

President White and Vice President Meagher spoke on the work done by Elaine Peterson and commented they were sad to see the resignation, but thanked her for her service.

- b) Letters of interest for appointment
  - i) Carol Coleman
  - ii) Thomas Farrell

It was noted the Council would still need to interview.

- 5) Jamestown Representative Beavertail State Park Advisory (One vacancy with a remaining term ending date of December, 2019); permission to advertise

**A motion was made by Councilor Piva with second by Councilor Beye to advertise the vacancy on Beavertail State Park Advisory. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye.**

The Council thanked Christina Collins for her service as Interim Town Administrator.

## **IX. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A motion was made by Councilor Piva with second by Vice President Meagher to approve and accept the Consent Agenda. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye.**

The Consent Agenda approved consists of the following:

- A) Adoption of Town Council Minutes
  - 1) November 22, 2019 (special meeting)
  - 2) November 22, 2019 (executive session)

- B) Minutes of Boards/Commissions/Committees
  - 1) Jamestown Zoning Board of Review (October 22, 2019)
  - 2) Jamestown Philomenian Library (November 12, 2019)
  
- C) Award of Bid
  - 1) Community Development Block Grant Administration to Church Community Housing Corporation (CCHC) for Professional Administrative Services for the Town's CDBG Program in an Amount not to exceed \$5,000

**X. COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND PROCLAMATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS FROM OTHER RHODE ISLAND CITIES AND TOWNS**

*The Council may acknowledge any of the listed Communications and Proclamations and Resolutions. Should any member wish to have a conversation on any of the matters, the item will be placed on a future agenda for review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote.*

**A motion was made by Councilor Beye with second by Councilor White to receive the Communications. .Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye; Councilor Piva, Aye.**

The Communications consists of the following:

- A) Communications
  - 1) Copy of Letter to: Michael White, President  
From: David W. Fish, P.E, R.I. DOT  
Dated: December 2, 2019  
Re: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Reconstruction of the Pell Bridge Approaches, Newport, RI
  
  - 2) Copy of Email to: Erin Liese, Town Clerk  
From: Joseph Pinheiro, Sunset Beach Aquaculture  
Dated: November 19, 2019  
Re: Annual Review Floating Upweller

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*The Town Council may seek to enter into Executive Session for review, discussion and/or potential action and/or vote on the following:*

- A) Pursuant to RIGL § 42-46-5(a) Subsection (2) Pending Litigation (IBPO Retiree Pension Benefits: File No. Balzer vs. Town of Jamestown, C.A. No. 1:19-cv-00109-WES-PAS; Dube, et al, vs. Town of Jamestown, C.A. No. 1:19-cv-00018-WES-PAS

Councilor Piva recused from RIGL § 42-46-5(a) Subsection (2) Potential or Pending Litigation (IBPO Retiree Pension Benefits: File No. Balzer vs. Town of Jamestown, C.A. No. 1:19-cv-00109-WES-PAS; Dube, et al, vs. Town of Jamestown, C.A. No. 1:19-cv-00018-WES-PAS and departed Council Chambers at 8:06 P.M.

**A motion made by Councilor Beye with second by Councilor White to enter Executive Session Pursuant to RIGL § 42-46-5(a) Subsection (2) Pending Litigation (IBPO Retiree Pension Benefits: File No. Balzer vs. Town of Jamestown, C.A. No. 1:19-cv-00109-WES-PAS; Dube, et al, vs. Town of Jamestown, C.A. No. 1:19-cv-00018-WES-PAS at 8:07 P.M. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye**

The Town Council reconvened the regular meeting at 8:55 P.M. It was announced no action was taken in Executive Session.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Vice President Meagher with second by Councilor White to adjourn. Vote: President White, Aye; Vice President Meagher, Aye; Councilor Beye, Aye; Councilor White, Aye;**

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:56 P.M.

Attest:

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Erin F. Liese, CMC, Town Clerk